

Biology 155a
Project Laboratory in Genetics and Genomics
Writing Assignment 3

Reading a Research Paper

Writing for a general audience is different from writing for other scientists. As a first step toward writing for scientists, we will now take time to read and carefully consider a research paper together.

Please read the following paper (available on the course website):
Martens et al. Intergenic transcription is required to repress the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* *SER3* gene, *Nature*, 429: 571-4, 2004.

And then answer the following questions –

- What are the authors studying?
- What is the question the authors are asking?
- Do the authors state a hypothesis? If so, what is it?
- What are the main results of the paper?
- What are the authors' main conclusions and how does it relate to our discussion of what a gene is.

Take a look at the handout “Reading a Scientific Paper” which is available on the course website. Reading a scientific research paper can be difficult. This handout is meant to help you.

Please write a brief answer to each of these questions and also be prepared to share your answers to these questions with the rest of the class.